vari poſſit, attenderunt; animalculorum tamen vivorum in carpionis, qui nondum duas libras *Norimb.* complet ſemine numerus 253,906,250,000 adhuc erit major: quod certe omnem noſtram imaginandi vim, minime tamen infiniti Conditoris potentiam, ſuperat.

Sed ſatis diu jam, vir doctiſſime, te moratus ſum. Nihil ergo adjicio, quam, ut impenſe te rogem, ne, qua uſus ſum, prolixitatem inique feras, mihi vero porro faveas. Ita Vale.

Dabam Gottingæ, *in Academia* Georgia Auguſta;
Die 15. Octob. *A.* 1744.

P. S. Ad tantam profunditatem barometrum, quo utor, ordinarium, dum hæc ſcribo, delapſum eſt, ut unica modo ex ſcala ipſius ordinaria linea ipſi reſtet. Sed Auſter etiam vehementiſſimus ſpirat. Hora vero noctis duodecima etiam infra hanc ultimam ſcalæ ſuæ lineam Mercurius ſubſedit.

II. *Some Account of the* Gigantic Boy *at* Willingham *near* Cambridge.

1. THE firſt Notice given to the *Royal Society* of this extraordinary Child, was a Letter communicated by Mr. *Philip Miller*, F. R. S. to the *Preſident*, incloſing one he had received from the Rev. Mr. *Almond*, Miniſter of the Pariſh; which was read at a Meeting of the *Society* on *Nov.* 8. laſt: At which time was likewiſe read a Letter from one Mr.

Baily to *James Theobalds*, Eſq; *F. R. S.* on the ſame Subject, and much to the ſame Purpoſe.

The following is an Extract of the Rev. Mr. *Almond*'s Letter,

SIR, *Willingham, Oct.* 3. 1745.

Read Nov. 8. 1744. I TAKE the Freedom to give you an Account of a Prodigy in Nature in the Town where I dwell; leaving it to your Diſcretion, whether it be worth your while to give the *Royal Society* Information thereof.

A Servant, who married out of my Family, was delivered of her ſecond Child, a Son; who, at his Birth, had ſomething very extraordinary about him above other Infants; in particular, *in partibus generationis*; beſides uncommonly large in his whole Body.

He grew to Admiration for Three-quarters of a Year, having only the Breaſt-Suſtenance; when his Mother died ſuddenly; and, as is ſuppoſed, he was acceſſory thereunto, by drawing away her vital Nouriſhment.

Since her Death, he has continued growing in Proportion: And, altho' now but 2 Years and 11 Months old, is 3 Feet 9 Inches high and better; and every Part in Proportion thereunto: His Strength and Courage ſuch as to overcome Boys of 6, 7, and 8 Years of Age: His Voice, like a Man's, very groom; Weight above Four Stone; and he appears to have as much Underſtanding as a Boy of 5 or 6 Years old. But, what is moſt ſurpriſing, his *Penis* is Four Inches long when

when erect; the Hair on the *Pubis* an Inch long and thick. The Report of him has brought People far and near to ſee him.

Your obedient humble Servant,

Edmund Almond.

2. *A Letter from Mr.* Tho. Dawkes, *Surgeon at* Huntington, *to Dr.* Mead, *F. R. S. & Med. Reg. concerning the ſame Child.*

Learned Sir,

Read Jan. 10. 1744-5. A *Prodigy of Nature,* hereunder exactly deſcribed, has, for ſome Months paſt, engag'd the Attention of the Curious in this Neighbourhood; and ſeems to demand that of that Learned and Honourable *Society,* of which you are a Member of the firſt Rank: And as ſuch, tho' a Stranger to you in Perſon, yet I preſume the following Accounts will not be altogether unacceptable to you.

At the Inſtance of the Midwife concerned at the Time of Labour, I went to a Village called *Willingham* alias *Wivelingham,* about Six Miles North of *Cambridge,* to ſee a Boy, then (the latter End of *Auguſt* laſt) juſt Two Years and Ten Months old; of whom I took, with the utmoſt Accuracy, the following Dimenſions; *viz.*

His

	Feet.	Inches.	Tenths.
His *Height*, which was —	3	8	5
The Meaſure round his *Neck*, —	1	1	2
——— of the *Waiſt* —	1	11	2
From the Head of one *Humerus* to the other — —	0	11	8
From the Head of the *Humerus* to the *Cubit* — —	0	8	2
From the *Cubit* to the *Extremity* of the *Ulna* and *Radius* —	0	6	0
The Meaſure round the *Wriſt* —	0	6	0
The *Length* of the *Thigh*, from the *Head of the Femur* to the *Head of the Tibia* — —	0	10	8
The Meaſure round its *thickeſt* Part	1	2	3
From the *Head* of the *Tibia* to the *Aſtragalus* — —	0	9	1
The *Length* of the *Foot* —	0	6	0
The *Breadth* of the ſame —	0	3	3
The Meaſure of the *thickeſt* Part of the *Calf* — —	0	10	3
The *Length* of the *Penis*, as *pendent*	0	3	3
Its *Circumference* —	0	2	7
The *Teſtes*, meaſured round to each Side of the *Penis* — —	0	5	2

His *Weight*, in his Cloaths, was Four Stone and Two Pounds.

The *Hair* of his Head is *long*, *ſtrong*, of a *dark-brown* Colour, and diſplays itſelf, *naturally*, in fine *Curls*.

He has the diſtinguiſhing Mark of *Puberty*; for the *Lanugo* upon the *Pubes* is as *long*, as *thick*, and as *criſp*, as that of an *adult Perſon*.

He

He is *very ſtrong:* I ſaw him take up and throw from him, with much Facility, a *Blackſmith's Hammer,* which weigh'd *Seventeen Pounds:* And when he is provok'd by other Children, (for he goes to School) he does not *fight with his Fiſt,* nor *Legs,* but *collars* them, and lays them proſtrate by mere Strength. Thus, they tell me, he will frequently ſerve Boys of eight or ten Years of Age.

His Voice, in common, is *extremely manly,* as deep a Baſs as you can well conceive; and he pronounces very diſtinctly.

He has ſomething a little *ſavage* in his Look; tho', they tell me, he is not naturally quarrelſome.

He eats and drinks with great Moderation.

His Underſtanding ſeems to be equal to that of a Child of 5 or 6 Years old.

He is quick of Apprehenſion, and has a very retentive Memory.

He has ſomething of a *ſtately Walk* with him; and ſeems conſcious of that uncommon Share of Strength which the Author of Nature has endow'd him with.

He is not made a *public Shew* of, but walks about, and plays in common with other Children.

When I ſaw him, the *Glans of the Penis* was quite uncover'd; and his Aunt, and the Midwife, aſſured me it was always ſo.

His *Father* is a *little Man,* a *Labourer:* His *Mother* (who died when he was but 9 Months old; and, as was ſuppos'd, by *giving him Suck;* for, they tell me, ſhe was found dead with him at her Breaſt) was a Woman of a *middle Stature.*

The Midwife aſſur'd me, That, when he was firſt born, he was no other than what they commonly term,

term, a *luſty Boy*; ſave that the Parts of Generation were *remarkably large*, and that the *Lanugo* firſt appear'd when he was near a Year old; which gave great Uneaſineſs to his Parents, who were very religious People. I am,

Learned Sir,

Huntingdon, Jan. 4. 1744,

Your moſt Obedient,

Humble Servant,

Tho. Dawkes.

To a ſecond Letter from the ſame were ſubjoined the *Affidavits* and *Teſtimonials* of the Midwife, the Miniſter, Churchwardens, and orhers, That this Child, *Tho. Hale*, was born on 31. *Octob.* 1741.

He was aſſured, by Mr. *Almond*, That, between *Aug.* 28. and *Nov.* 30. 1744. this Child was grown two Inches and an half; *i. e.* from 3 Feet 8 Inches and 5 Tenths, to 3 Feet 11 Inches. *C. M.*

III. *A Letter from Mr.* Browne Langriſh, *Licent. Coll. Med. Lond. & F. R. S. to the Rev. Dr.* Hales, *F. R. S. concerning a new Contrivance of applying* Receivers *to* Retorts *in Diſtillation.*

Dear Sir,

Read Jan. 24. 1744-5.

I Return you my hearty Thanks for your kind Preſent of your Account of ſome Experi-